

**MICHAEL SHIPPEY, PH.D**

agent no. 45,588 1-714-693-9110

**Section 2. Reply to the Office in re 35 USC § 103 rejections**

Applicant respectfully requests the reconsideration of the obviousness rejections of the claims in the instant application, based on the amendments to the claims and the arguments offered below. The Examiner has rejected all claims based on 35 USC § 103 obviousness in light of prior art U.S. patent number 6,197,390 to inventor LaVite (hereafter referred to as LaVite '390) in view of US. Patent 5,340,350 to inventors Fink et. al. (hereafter referred to as Fink '350).

Applicant notes that amendments to the existing claims, and the introduction of new claims, may suffice to remove some of the objects to the as-filed claims.

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As previously noted, The difference between the current invention and LaVite '390 is not so much the design of the object, but rather the design of the current invention that enables it to be placed in various postures and positions, and hold its shape during motion of the vehicle. The invention of LaVite '390 is a solid object that does not change position or shape after manufacture.

In addition, Fink '350 in many respects teaches away from the current invention.

The basic reason why Fink '350 teaches away from the current invention as indicated is that the invention in Fink '350 is designed to be housed permanently inside the passenger cabin of a car. This is a much more hospitable, and less demanding environment, than the outside of a motor vehicle. It is far easier to design a motionless, solid object for attachment to a trailer hitch than to invent an attachment that has changeable shape, yet capable of preserving its shape despite the forces of wind and automobile motion that it faces in its day-to-day environment.

For these reasons, Applicant suggests that neither Fink '350 itself, nor its combination with LaVite '390, would reveal the details necessary to a person of ordinary skill in automobile decorative art to design the invention of the current application. Thus, Applicant prays for reconsideration of this rejection.

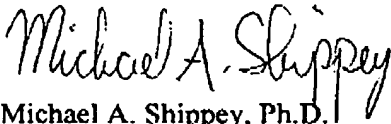
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**Section 3. Remarks**

Applicant has responded to all points raised in the office action of 08/19/2005, and believes the application is now in a condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests a timely Allowance in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,



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